

HENRY PLACIDE.

A Biographical Sketch of his Career—Interesting Reminiscences of the American Stage. Yesterday announced the death of Henry Placide, one of the best of the old stock of American actors, who are now fast disappearing from view.

Henry Placide, the eminent American comedian, was born in Charleston, S. C., Sept. 8, 1798. His father, Monsieur Alexandre Placide, was an eminent patriot and dancer of the light-footed variety.

He was also, in the early part of this century, manager of the Charleston company, said to be at that time the best theatrical company in America, and afterward manager of the Richmond (Va.) Theatre until it was burned down in December, 1811.

Another range of characters he was equally at home in, such as "Touchstone," in "As You Like It," or the "Clown" in "Twelfth Night," "Tom Dobbs" in the farce of the "Omnibus," "Fathers" in the "Hunchback," or in the innumerable roles he performed in farce, vaudeville, or melodrama.

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He was a class of characters which belonged peculiarly to Placide, and which, since his retirement from the stage, have rarely, some never, been attempted by others, such as his "Dr. Bouquet," in the "Village Doctor," his "Michael Perrin," in "Secret Service," his "Jean Jacques Freigue," or "Grandfather Whitehead," or "Tom Noddy," or "Uncle John," or "Haversack," or in the last performance with which he took leave of the stage, "Corporal Cartouche."

raised to a level with Power's "Sir Patrick O'Plenio," "Gerald Pepper," and "Rory O'More." Charles Matthews, the elder, in taking leave of America, sent him his own stage copy of "Coddle," in the play of "Married Life," with a note in verse advising him to visit England, assuring him that he would fill the Adelphi, and hailing him as the "chastest of actors in spite of detractors."

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